



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 02/23/2009

ARINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30PM O'NEILL ROOM COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
 2/23/09

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*		Bayer*	Phelps	Dunn*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Olszewski*	
Tosti	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara *	Franclemont*	Jones*	Deshler*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman*	Turkall*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Recycling Committee CoChairs Gordon Jameison, Juli Brazile

MINUTES of 2/18/09 accepted as corrected. Unanimous
 Vice Chair Jones chaired the meeting.

ART 33 PAY AS YOU THROW: Jamieson, using a handout, walked the FinCom through a rationale for introducing this program now. He sees it as one of the few practical ways to avoid deep service reductions. He suggested a \$1/33gal bag trash fee for homes & businesses. He estimated savings of \$300k/yr. In the ensuing discussion FinCom members expressed interest and encouraged Jamieson to develop a more detailed plan. Since this is a BoS article, members were reluctant to report but they were supportive of a proposal to include a workable detailed plan as an appendix to the FinCom report. Howard to provide a draft using the model from the 2004 PAYT Study Committee with updated numbers.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE (ARC) BUDGET: Jamieson reviewed the reduction in solid waste being sent to North Andover over the last few years. He believes this is largely due to ARC initiatives. The ARC has a budget of \$1800 which was used last year to pay for cardboard recycling dumpster on a trial basis. It was so successful that the DPW took it over, added another, and arranged for twice weekly pickups. The ARC is subsidizing sale of composting bins at reduced cost at the upcoming EcoFest. Jamieson requested a budget increase to \$3k to expand bin subsidizing and similar efforts.. Though members were inclined to support this request, a vote was delayed until the demand for composting bins could be judged by results at the EcoFest.

BUD 1 FINCOM: GenGov SubCom (Howard) recommended a \$20 reduction in officer stipends and a \$70 expense reduction. This represents a 3% for stipends and expenses. The exec sect step increase would remain a 4%. Members agreed that a reduction is desirable to set an example. Several alternatives were proposed. VOTES: The most drastic, elimination of stipends, was defeated 4-12. A reduction of \$50 for all members was approved 12-3. The total of \$9963 was approved 15-0.

BUD 2 SELECTMEN: GenGov SubCom (Howard) recommended the budget as printed except for level-funding the town report printing. DuBois believes that the expenses associated w/ Town Meeting were left out. After some confusion this budget was tabled until all members could examine the election expense details.

BUD 3 TOWN MANAGER: GenGov SubCom (Howard) discussed various issues in this budget, and then recommended the budget as printed except for correction of a \$29 error. Members wanted to eliminate the vacant position to cover the increase in grade for the Admin Assistant. There followed a confused discussion of what the FinCom budget review was supposed to accomplish. Opinion ranged from understand the budget & correct errors to reduce budgets 10%. Jones to discuss w/ Tosti.

COMMITTEE: Turkall provided copies of the Ernst & Whinney report from 1981 concerning reorganizing town government. This should be useful background for Art 32. She also provided a revised hearing agenda
2/25 61 Water Bodies Fund, 27 After School Scholarship Fund, AYCC, 49 Human Rights
3/4 Minuteman Tech

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$287,000

Peter B Howard 2/24/09 Revised 3/2/09

cc FinCom Members, Selectmen, Town Manager, Comptroller, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site
VOTE SUMMARY - Articles

# 2/11	#	#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Status (Unlisted votes were unanimous)
16			Marihuana Bylaw			Public Safety SubCom to inquire
27			After School Scholarship Fund			
28			Max Age for Appointment to Police & Fire			TM
29			Max Age For Police & Fire			
30			Transfer Of McClennen Park			
31			Goodman Pension Time	2/11		
32			Govt Reorg Committee	2/11		Need cost est
33			Pay As You Throw	2/23		
34			Library Copiers & Printers Fund			TM
35			Parking Fund	2/18	2/18	No action
39			Collective Bargaining			TM
40			Future Collective Bargaining			TM
41			Salary Adjustment Elected Officials			TM
42			Positions Reclassification			
43			Budgets			
44			Capital Budget	2/18	2/18	8242949
45			Rescind authority to borrow	2/18	2/18	177472
46			Minuteman Tech			
47			Minutean Tech Stabilization Fund			
48			Celebrations			TM
49			Committees & Commissions	2/23		

50		Misc Appropriations			TM
51		Sewers			TM
52		Water			TM
53		Pension Adjustment	2/11	2/11	Support
55		Mead Road Improvements			
56		Disability Commission Appropriation			
57		Harry Barber Service Program	2/11	2/11	7500
58		Minuteman Senior Services	2/11	2/11	10145 9-4
59		Reevaluation	2/18	2/18	70000
60		Tax Exemptions	2/18	2/18	No action 14-1
61		Water Bodies			
62		Special Ed Reserve Account			Super
63		OPEB			TM
64		Tip Fee Stab Fund			
65		Transfer of Cemetery Funds			
66		Overlay Reserve			
67		Stabilization Fund			
68		Free Cash			

VOTE SUMMARY-Budgets

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Amount	Vote Unlisted votes were unanimous
1	FinCom				
2	Board of Selectmen				
3	Town Manager				
4	Personnel				
5	Information Technology				
6	Comptroller				
7	Treasurer				
8	Postage				
9	Assessors				
10	Legal				
11	Town Clerk				
12	Registrar of Voters				
13	Parking				
14	Planning				
15	Redevelopment Board				
16	Zoning Board of Appeals				
17	Public Works				

